

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 1.

Please add the following new claims:

18. (New) An actuator assembly for use in a disc drive, comprising:
- a rigid actuator body rotatable about a pivot shaft and having a side which extends in a direction substantially parallel to an axis of rotation of a rotatable disc of the disc drive;
 - a rigid actuator arm which extends from the rigid actuator body to support a read/write head adjacent a surface of the disc; and
 - a disc snubber affixed to the side of the rigid actuator body comprising a disc snubber arm which extends adjacent a portion of the rigid actuator arm and limits deflection of the disc resulting from application of a non-operational shock to the disc drive to minimize contact between the disc and the rigid actuator arm.

19. (New) The actuator assembly of claim 18, wherein the read/write head is operably configured to rest upon the disc surface at a landing zone defined at an inner radius of the disc and wherein a distance the disc snubber arm extends adjacent the rigid actuator arm is selected so that the disc snubber arm is disposable over the disc surface

5 at such time that the head is brought to rest upon the landing zone and is retracted beyond an outer radius of the disc at such time that the read/write head is moved to a position over the disc surface between the inner and outer radii of the disc.

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20. (New) The actuator assembly of claim 18, further comprising a fastener which extends through the disc snubber and into the side of the rigid actuator body to affix the disc snubber to the rigid actuator body.

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21. (New) A disc drive, comprising:

a disc rotatable about a disc axis and having a surface on which data are magnetically stored; and

an actuator assembly mounted for rotation adjacent the disc, comprising:

a rigid actuator body rotatable about a pivot shaft and having a side which extends in a direction substantially parallel to the disc axis;

a rigid actuator arm which extends from the rigid actuator body over the disc surface to support a read/write head adjacent the disc surface;

and

a disc snubber affixed to the side of the rigid actuator body comprising a disc snubber arm which extends adjacent a portion of the rigid actuator arm and limits deflection of the disc resulting from application of a non-operational shock to the disc drive to minimize contact between the disc and the rigid actuator arm.

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22. (New) The disc drive of claim 21, wherein the read/write head is brought to

rest upon the disc surface at a landing zone defined at an inner radius of the disc and

wherein a distance the disc snubber arm extends adjacent the rigid actuator arm is

selected so that the disc snubber arm is disposable over the disc surface at such time that

the head is brought to rest upon the landing zone and is retracted beyond an outer radius

of the disc at such time that the read/write head is moved to a position over the disc

surface between the inner and outer radii of the disc.

⁶23. (New) The disc drive of claim ⁴21, further comprising a fastener which extends through the disc snubber and into the side of the rigid actuator body to affix the disc snubber to the rigid actuator body.

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24. (New) A disc drive, comprising:

a rotatable disc; and

limit means for limiting deflection of the disc in response to application of a non-operational shock to the disc drive.

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